

State Capitol Preservation and Restoration Commission
June 18, 2013
Legislative Office Building

Members Present: Representative Emil "Buddy" Altobello, Benny Auger, Senator Joseph J. Crisco, Jr., Commissioner Donald J. DeFronzo, Robert D. Harris, Jr., Sally M. Martin, William Morgan, John Ruffalo, Barry Williams, Walter W. Woodward

Members Not Present: Lorraine Guilmartin, Thomas Ritter

Others Present: Angela Cahill, Eric Connery, Liz Conroy, Jay Drew, Kim Fabrizio, Liz Ferruggiaro, April Hannah, Tina Mohr

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m.

- ◆ The March 18, 2013 meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.
- ◆ *Active Projects:*
 - Jay Drew reported that we are going to repair a broken piece of glass located on the dormer above one of the skylights. This repair will allow the structural engineers to review the structure of the skylight.
 - He continues to investigate office lighting options and has received one more option to test. He may work with DEEP to seek additional options. Eric added that DEEP has some funding available for more intense energy audits and projects. We are also planning to move forward with investigating lighting options for the Old Judiciary Room skylight and the Capitol dome as they are part of the energy-efficiency plan.
- ◆ *Project checklist update:*
 - Eric reported that some bond funding has been released for repairing the exterior window frames. We do not know the extent of the damage until Fletcher Thompson completes their study. The windows had been on an escalated 4-year painting schedule to stop the deterioration.
 - The east and west skylight funding has also been released. The skylights will be removed and stored by the end of the interim. We plan to re-install the items during the next interim, pending funding.
 - The boiler replacement project should begin soon.
 - We are also planning to move forward with the battle flag conservation request for proposal so that we will be ready if new funding becomes available.
- ◆ *Projects on hold pending funding:* Items on hold include the exterior cleaning and restoration project, the Genius statue, and the blast mitigation project. We are still reviewing the budget to see if we will be able to begin the elevator interior upgrade. The exterior cleaning and restoration project remains a top priority on the bond request list, but remains on hold due to the large multi-million dollar cost.

◆ *Old Business:*

- Memorial for Gerry Caughman - The legislative leaders have approved a memorial. We will begin working on a plaque and selecting a date for a reception in the Hall of Flags.
- Printing of flag books - Approval has also been received for the printing of 33 of the flag books authored by Gerry.
- Civil War Statue (Forlorn Soldier) - Legislative Management has been working with the Kelly Family Trust who owns the statue and the CCSU Foundation who has the funding to pay for the conservation and relocation of the statue. At the last Commission meeting, the Commission approved the acceptance of the statue. Since that time, the legislative leaders have also approved acceptance. Eric asked the Commission to consider two possible locations for the statue's placement: (1) the North Lobby near the windows and (2) the northeast corner of the 1st floor staircase. Bill Morgan motioned that the Commission select the northeast corner of the staircase. Rep. Altobello seconded the motion. The motion passed by acclamation. A sample of the plaque wording was presented to the Commission and members discussed possible changes. Eric suggested that the League of Women Voters add a history of the Forlorn Soldier to the self-guided tour brochure. After review of the Commission's statute (4b-60) by the Legislative Commissioners' Office it was determined that the Commission is allowed to accept donations on behalf of the State of Connecticut. The attorneys recommended that when the donation is of an historic nature or relevant to the State Capitol building, that the Commission should act as the accepting entity. A letter will be forthcoming to Chairman Harris indicating that he will be able to sign an official acceptance letter for the Civil War statue.

◆ *New Business*

- Lincoln Etching - Eric Connery also submitted a photo of an Abraham Lincoln etching that a private party would like to gift to the State. It was created by Henry Gugler in 1869. Senator Crisco asked about insurance for the etching. Eric responded that the State is self-insured with a one-million dollar deductible. Dr. Woodward motioned that the Commission accept the donation. Sally Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed by acclamation. Eric suggested two possible locations for the etching. The first option would be outside the House Chamber by the water urn. The second would be in the basement in the glass case alongside the 29th Regiment Civil War flag. The Commission decided not to vote on a location during the meeting. The acceptance of the etching will now await the legislative leaders' approval.
- ◆ *Selecting the date for the next Commission meeting:* Bob Harris suggested September 17, 2013 for the next meeting, to coincide with the possible dedication of the Forlorn Soldier statue.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.



Eric Connery



Elizabeth Conroy